

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD "ECSTATIC" OVER SENATE PASSAGE OF RMNP OVERFLIGHT BAN SAYS FIVE YEAR BATTLE MEETS SUCCESS

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard's five year battle to ban overflights at Rocky Mountain National Park was met with success Wednesday evening when the U.S. Senate passed the FAA Conference report. The report contained an amendment from Allard to permanently ban commercial overflights at Rocky Mountain National Park.

"This is a great day for all of us who want to see Rocky Mountain National Park's peace and serenity preserved for future generations," Allard said following the Senate's passage of his bill. "My legislation will ensure that when someone visits Rocky Mountain National Park they will not have their visit disturbed by a low flying commercial helicopter."

Allard began his effort to ban commercial overflights at Rocky Mountain National Park in 1995, when interest was expressed by a private company in Estes Park to begin a commercial helicopter tour operation. In 1996, Allard was successful in getting then Secretary of Transportation Federico Pena to enact a federal rule temporarily banning the commercial overflights.

"Although we currently have a federal rule which prohibits such commercial overflights at Rocky Mountain National Park, it was important to have this ban placed in statute to fully protect the Park from possible future overflights," Allard said. "With the passage of my legislation, we have ensured that Rocky Mountain National Park will remain a flight free zone."

The House of Representatives expects to vote on the FAA Authorization Act Conference Report next week, followed by the President's approval this March.

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